



Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an internal combustion engine, in which fuel is injected by an injector into a combustion chamber, the injector having an activatable piezoactuator, the method comprising:

generating a precontrol setpoint for activating the piezoactuator, wherein activation of the piezoactuator results in a motion of a valve needle; [[and]]

combining the precontrol setpoint with a charge regulation of a charge quantity conveyed to the piezoactuator; and

combining the charge regulation, a reference stroke and an actual stroke of the valve needle of the injector with one another.

2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein an output signal of the charge regulation is combined additively with the precontrol setpoint.

3. (Canceled) .

4. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[3]] 1, wherein the charge regulating regulation, the reference stroke and the actual stroke are combined by differentiation.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[3]] 1, further comprising:

ascertaining the actual stroke as a function of the charge quantity conveyed to the piezoactuator.

6. (Original) The method as recited in claim 5, further comprising:

ascertaining the charge quantity conveyed to the piezoactuator as a function of a voltage at a capacitor that is impinged upon by a portion of current conveyed to the piezoactuator.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[3]] 1, further comprising:

ascertaining the reference stroke from a flow setpoint which represents mass or quantity of fuel that is to be injected per unit time.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim [[3]] 1, further comprising:  
ascertaining the precontrol setpoint as a function of the reference stroke.

9. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the charge regulation is controlled by a PI controller.

10. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the charge regulation is combined with a voltage regulation.

11. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein the voltage regulation is subordinate to the charge regulation.

12. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein a voltage generated by the charge regulation is combined with an actual value of a voltage present at the piezoactuator.

13. (Original) The method as recited in claim 12, wherein the voltage regulation is controlled by a PI controller.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Currently Amended) A memory medium on which is stored a computer program which is programmed in such a way that when it is executed, a method is executed, the method comprising:

generating a precontrol setpoint for activating the piezoactuator, wherein activation of the piezoactuator results in a motion of a valve needle; [[and]]

combining the precontrol setpoint with a charge regulation of a charge quantity conveyed to the piezoactuator; and

combining the charge regulation, a reference stroke and an actual stroke of the valve needle of the injector with one another.

16. (Currently Amended) A control and/or regulating device comprising:

an arrangement configured to generate a precontrol setpoint for activating a piezoactuator of a fuel injector, wherein activation of the piezoactuator results in a motion of a valve needle; [[and]]

an arrangement configured to combine the precontrol setpoint with a charge regulation of a charge quantity conveyed to the piezoactuator; and

an arrangement configured to combine the charge regulation, a reference stroke and an actual stroke of the valve needle of the injector with one another.

17. (Currently Amended) An internal combustion engine for a motor vehicle, comprising:

a control device configured to generate a precontrol set point for activating a piezoactuator of a fuel injector, wherein activation of the piezoactuator results in a motion of a valve needle, and configured to combine the precontrol setpoint with a charge regulation of a charge quantity conveyed to the piezoactuator, and configured to combine the charge regulation, a reference stroke and an actual stroke of the valve needle of the injector with one another.